

February-March 1996

Vol. 16 No. 2

BARTalk

Employees Honor Martin Luther King



*"I refuse to accept the view...
that the bright daybreak
of peace and brotherhood
can never become a reality."*

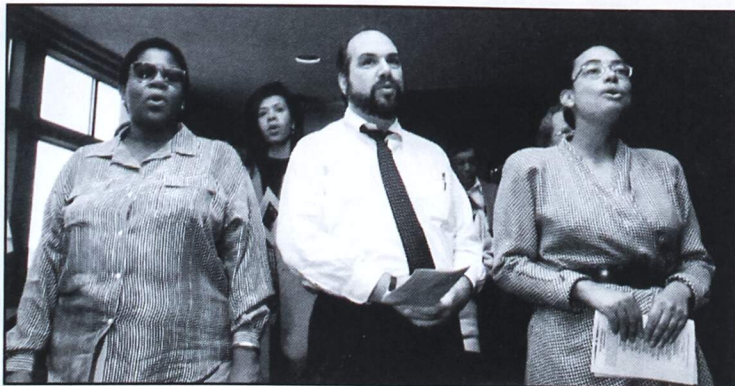
For more than 10 years, BART employees have honored the memory of Martin Luther King Jr. with an annual commemoration of Dr. King and his dream for peace.

This year's event was held on January 12 in the BART Board Room and drew about 100 people to hear music, remarks from BART officials and a keynote address by Rev. Amos C. Brown, pastor of Third Baptist Church in San Francisco. Musicians from the McGee Baptist Church in Berkeley treated celebrants to joyous music before remarks by



Board President Dan Richard, Board Vice President Margaret Pryor and BART General Manager Richard A. White.

Rev. Brown's address, "Where Do We Go From Here ... Chaos or Community?" was "inspiring, fiery and dynamic," said Shirley McNeal, Assistant to the General Manager and a member of the Martin Luther King Commemoration Committee. He provided a perspective, she said, on "what we need to do as a people to realize Dr. King's dream for peace."



"We have a dream..." James Archie (left) and Shirley McNeal helped organize this year's commemoration to Dr. Martin Luther King. The January event drew some 100 people to honor the memory of the civil rights leader, and consider how Dr. King's dream for peace can inspire understanding among the races.

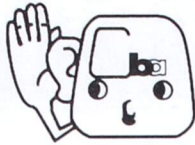
The immediate future holds chaos, Rev. Brown conceded, said Electronic Engineer James Archie, Master of Ceremonies for the event. "He pointed to things like the 'Million Man March' as helping to mobilize the community. But, in his assessment, we still have a long way to go toward realizing the respect and understanding we seek among the races; we can get to where we want to go with more regard and mutual admiration for others' cultures."

Rev. Brown marched with Dr. King in the 1960s, was jailed with him, and today is a prominent activist in the black community.

Thanks and congratulations to members of the commemoration committee: Shirley McNeal; James Archie; Attorneys Sharon Flynn and John Purcell; Accountant Cheryl Simien, Administrative Analyst Hershell Levi, Publications Analyst Karen Hill, Senior Affirmative Action Analyst Carl Kennedy, and Mae Meidav, Assistant to the Chief Engineer. **b**



ScuttleBART



In January, BARTalk reported the results of the annual holiday booth decoration contest. Several people besides the winners were included in our story. We apologize for the error and note here the winners of BART's Holiday Booth Decoration Contest:

First Place: Glen Park Station
"Christmas at the North Pole"
Pat Corbett

Second Place: Berkeley Station
"Merry Christmas"
Fred Evans, Jackie Paul

Third Place: Embarcadero Station
"The First Christmas"
Mary Ann Engler-Contreras

Richard F. (Rick) Jones, Right of Way Division Manager in Real Estate Services, has been named a Registered Senior Member of the International Right of Way Association (IRWA). In a letter to Department Manager Desha R. Hill, IRWA Executive Vice President Arthur D. Aston Jr. said, "Registration ... is the result of careful screening and rigid examination in the fields of negotiation, appraisal, law and engineering. (Conferring Senior Member designation) identifies this member as having attained unique professional status." Says Desha, "Congratulations on your appointment, Rick. This is quite an accomplishment and one well deserved."

Michele Jacobson has been promoted to Manager of Extension Planning, announced Ward Belding, Planning, Research and Development Department Manager. Michele first came to BART in March 1990 to oversee planning and environmental certification for garages at the Concord and Rockridge Stations. More recently, she has been staff liaison to the Oakland Airport Connector project; helped develop BART's strategic planning process; led the team responsible for the 1995 fare increase, and coordinated implementing the Credit/Debit Vending Machine project. Previously, Michele was principal at an architecture and planning firm and also worked for two urban planning and environmental analysis firms. **b**

Concord Shop Wins February Tourney; BART Police Join the League



It's a family affair when kids and spouses show up to cheer on their favorite team at a BART Bowling League tournament. Family and friends were on hand February 17 at Diablo Lanes in Concord as Concord Shop secured its second victory for 1996 in league play. With a top-five score of 2,654, the suburban team bowled for sport against co-workers from Richmond Yard (2,417), Treasury (2,324), Hayward Yard (2,177) and the newest team from the BART Police (2,027). The High Score award went to William Person of Richmond Yard with a 235 game score, while Terry Carney of Treasury earned the High Series award with a 627 score for the three-game series.

"We'd like to especially thank Beverly Carson from Ashby Station, who has kept all the records since we started the league," said Andy Williams, Richmond Yard foreperson and league organizer. "She keeps us all on track, which is even more important now that the league is growing."

The league now sports a new "BART Champions" trophy and league plaque. The plaque lists that month's winning team and remains with the team until the next tournament, along with the trophy. "We all pitched in and bought the trophy and plaque, so everyone will know we're official," said Andy.

Congratulations to players on all five teams who played on February 17 -- **Concord Shop:** John O'Leary, Elly Divino Sr., Dave Gentry, Dennis Wilkerson, Mike Drazenovich and Wally Weihe; **Richmond Yard:** Don Wells, William Person, James Bonds, Beverly Carson and Andy Williams; **Treasury:** Terry Carney, Alena Smith, Bill Florio, Johnnie Hicks and Frank Amboy; **Hayward Yard:** Walt Jusino, Dave Hoods, Dave Adams and Dave Freeman; and **BART Police:** George Ross, Sunny Marks, A.J. Ward and Gill Lopez.

Word of mouth has helped the league grow, notes Andy. "We're always open to new teams, and we'd especially like to see more ladies come out." Beverly Carson from Richmond Yard and Alena Smith from Treasury are the only two women, he says. "What about organizing a ladies team?" Anyone interested in joining an existing team or forming their own may call Beverly Carson at ext. 4137 or Andy Williams at ext. 5100.

At "two for two" can Concord Shop be beat? Find out at the next tournament scheduled for Saturday, March 30 at the Holiday Bowl in Hayward. The tourney will be hosted by Hayward Yard. **b**

CPR

Are you prepared to save a life? Possibly the life of a child—maybe one of your own? Or the life of a complete stranger? It could happen! Knowing how to apply CPR, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, could save a life.
Call Ext. 6292/6293.

Colma Station Unveiled in Preview Events, Revenue Service Began February 24

BART employees and their families got a "sneak preview" of the new Colma Station at an Open House held Saturday, February 17. The event was also open to SamTrans employees and their families. Activities included tours; refreshments; a "Bounce-Walk" for the children; carnival entertainment with clowns, jugglers and acrobats; music; raffle prizes and commemorative items.

The public was invited to view the new Colma Station during "ribbon cutting" ceremonies held Friday, February 23 and a Community Celebration held Saturday, February 24, when the station opened for revenue service. Among well-wishers at the February 23 event were Federal Transportation Secretary Frederico Peña.

The Community Celebration featured entertainment, refreshments and commemorative gifts for riders. Dixieland music, Philippine dancers, 50s and 60s music and a women's orchestra entertained riders and visitors to the station. The BART Police demonstrated its canine unit, and offered to fingerprint children under the "Ident-A-Kid" program.

Considered the first step in linking BART to the San Francisco International Airport, the Colma Station is the second to open under BART's Extensions Program. BART's



▲ **Welcome to Colma:** Lynn Ragghianti (center, right) and Emily Ingram (right) hand out commemorative posters at BART's Employee Day at the new Colma Station. BART Employees and their families got a sneak preview of the new station in February.

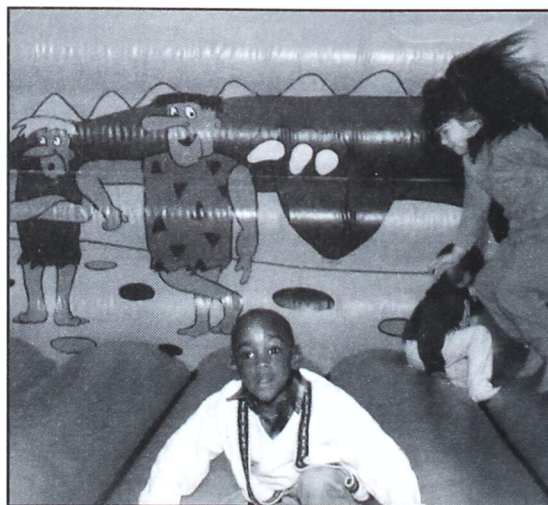


North Concord Station opened for revenue service last December. New stations for Castro Valley, Dublin/Pleasanton and Pittsburg/Bay Point will open later this year. Overall, BART is adding more than 30 miles of new track and nine stations to the current 71-mile rail system.

The three-track, two platform station is the second largest among BART's 36 stations. Its five-story, 1,400-space parking garage was built over the Daly City Station rail yard, the first time such construction was undertaken over an operating rail facility. The new station also features several amenities for persons with disabilities, including a special walkway, platform tiles indicating train doorways, and five elevators to provide access to different station levels.

The Colma Station includes a SamTrans Transit Center to encourage riders to link with the SamTrans bus system for their trip to and from the station. One of the five bridges link the station to a SamTrans Park-and-Ride lot for another 814 commuter parking spaces.

The station also features modern bicycle lockers, carpool parking and contemporary art works along the concourse and platform areas. **b**



EMPLOYEE SUGGESTIONS



BART employees help increase efficiency and save costs by presenting their ideas for improving BART to the Employee Suggestion Program. They have been duly rewarded for their proposals. Here are some recent awardees and their ideas:

Fred Drissen

Maintenance Worker III, Rolling Stock & Shops:

Fred Drissen had his mind on safety when he suggested using a special glass removal tool to take out C-Car bulkhead windows. Employees previously removed the window frame strip and had to kick out the window, placing the body in a stressful and awkward position. Using the tool helped reduce the possibility of on-the-job injuries. Fred received a \$200.00 safety award.

John B. ("Barry") Love

Maintenance Worker III, Rolling Stock & Shops:

Barry Love suggested converting C-Car motors for use on A/B cars when blower assemblies for A/B cars were in short supply or not available. His idea allowed EMRS to build the blower assemblies and reduce down time for revenue vehicles. Barry received a \$150.00 customer service award.

Kevin Connell

Educational Development Specialist, Rolling Stock & Shops:

A remote control solenoid assembly that controls the battery box in C Cars failed often, causing train delays and other problems. Kevin Connell suggested stocking a special solenoid assembly part to reduce down time. Using the part has reduced labor costs and mitigated secondary failures in revenue vehicles. Kevin received a \$150.00 customer service award.

James Schroeder and Dan Swanson

Maintenance Workers, Rolling Stock & Shops:

Installing an electronic fault monitor would help locate problems with the motor/alternator system in A/B cars, suggested James Schroeder and Dan Swanson. Hard-to-find failures led to delays and higher repair costs. The new fault monitor displays intermittent failures to speed along the repair process. Their idea was calculated to save \$27,066 over five years and James and Dan shared an efficiency award of \$2,706.62.

Marvin Phillips and Dale Thompson

Maintenance Workers, Rolling Stock & Shops:

The stop bolt used to fasten a bolt head on the collector assembly wears out quickly. Replacing a defective bolt is a lengthy process because the collector shoe must be disassembled to reach it. Marvin Phillips and Dale Thompson suggested replacing these bolts on an as-needed basis to reduce down time for revenue service vehicles. Their idea saved \$7,781 in labor cost. Marvin and Dale shared an efficiency savings award of \$778.14.

Carl Smith

Maintenance Worker III, Rolling Stock & Shops:

Carl Smith suggested installing pin jacks to monitor the regulated B40 power supply and facilitate GPA repair. The regulated supply would overheat because there were no access points to monitor the power for eight GPA driverboards. Installing two pins on the outboard semiconductor box helped vehicle electronic technicians monitor power supply and quickly locate GPA failures. Carl received an efficiency/productivity savings award of \$186.94.

Timothy Cardoza

System Worker, Rolling Stock & Shops:

Waste water and sludge were separately removed from steam cleaners and placed into drums for hauling away by a disposal company. The sludge had to be manually removed, adding significant labor time. Timothy Cardoza suggested using an outside vendor to mechanically clean out the sludge. His idea saved \$19,000 in disposal cost and Timothy received an efficiency savings award of \$1,965.60.

Robert Semple

Maintenance Worker III, Maintenance & Engineering:

The yellow signal light in the train carwash is an employee's signal that it is safe to enter. That light was wired through the normally closed contact of a relay; should the signal to the relay fail, the light could remain on to falsely indicate safe entry. Robert Semple suggested the dwarf signal light be wired through the wash relay and redesigned to use the signals' original filament bulbs, thereby removing a potential hazard. He received a \$150.00 award.

Faire Celebrates Black History Month

BART employees honored Black History Month with a first-time Afro-Centric Faire on February 29. The event was held at the LMA Plaza and featured African clothing, jewelry, art, food, children's story books.

The event was organized and hosted by the "Nubian Queens," a group of BART female employees led by Senior Computer Operator Sylvia Dokes. Others who helped organize the faire were Budget Analyst Fannie Mackson from the Transportation Department; Clerk Annie Hamp, Chief Clerical Steward for Local 790; and Administrative Analyst Hershell Levi from Training and Development. **b**

Bond Named Executive Manager, External Affairs; Mack Becomes Manager of Civil Rights Office

Murray Bond joined BART in late January as Executive Manager for External Affairs. He was formerly with ATE Management and Service Company, overseeing the community relations program for BART's Extensions Projects. With over 20 years in transit in the public and private sectors, Murray has worked for transit systems in Baltimore, Minneapolis/St. Paul, New Jersey and Cincinnati. "He is well grounded in all areas concerning External Affairs," noted General Manager Dick White, including marketing, public affairs, customer service, community and media relations, grant programs and services for the disabled.

John Mack returned to BART in early March as Department Manager, Office of Civil Rights. He previously worked for BART from 1977 to 1990. With approximately 25 years in transportation and urban planning, John has also worked with the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, the Bay Area Planning Council and a private consulting firm. "He has considerable experience in disadvantaged and women business enterprises, affirmative action, contract compliance and outreach programs," said General Manager Dick White. John is active in local and national minority affairs committees.

Great Buy!! Two bar stool chairs, pine with black seat cushion, \$15. Dining room set, cherry wood, table with 4 chairs, great for small dining area, \$250. Call Liz at ext. 6336.



For Sale! Two bedroom, 2 1/2 bath townhome, one-car attached garage, laundry room, fireplace, garden window, all new light oak cabinets throughout, new tile counter tops, light & bright throughout, completely remodeled (\$22,000 worth of remodeling free), like brand new, 1250 sq. ft. Only \$120,000. Possible Lease/Option. Call Carol at ext. 6125 or after 6 p.m. at 510/237-4738.

House for Rent in Beautiful Tahoe Keys! 3 bedroom, 2 bath attached home on the water with it's own dock. Access to private olympic size pool and hot tub. 5 minutes from Heavenly, shopping, casinos, etc. \$100/night. Call Bob at ext. 6457 or 510/482-4570.

Cabin for Rent Nestled in the trees. Ski at Dodge Ridge, ice skate or winter play. Sleeps 8, fully equipped. \$150/weekend, \$50/weekday, \$300/week. Call Sue at ext. 2518 or 352-3473.

For Rent (Lake Tahoe) "Cozy" 3 bdrm "A-Frame" cabin (sleeps 6+) in forest setting & fully equip. 2-mi so. of Tahoe City, 10 min. walk to private beach w/boat docks, BBQ & table, grass and game area, panoramic views, nearby dining, shops, biking, walking trails, casinos and skiing. \$100/night - \$575/wk. Call Dennis at Ext. 2821 or 510/828-0744. (Photo book available)

Time to clean out those drawers, closets and garages! **BARTalk's Trash and Treasures** column offers you an opportunity to pick up some extra cash for those unwanted items you no longer need. Send your ads—no telephone calls—to Trash & Treasures, BARTalk, LMA-1; E-mail to VWills; or Fax to 464-7103.

Get out of the dark!



464-6223
For BART
Employees Only!

In Touch with BART

Want to hear up-to-date information about BART? All you have to do is call 464-6300 and the information will be right at the tip of your finger. You've reached the BART Employee Information Hotline.

The new Hotline is an outgrowth of the Joint Labor-Management Committee, which has been meeting regularly since January, 1995.

The Hotline messages will be changed every week. Give the Hotline a call. Reach out and get in touch with what's going on at BART. **b**



BARTalk

A publication for and about the employees of the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District

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Special Note: Editors reserve the right to edit, revise, reduce or discard any materials submitted for publication. Any material appearing in this publication may be reproduced with appropriate credit.

BARTistics

September 1, 1995 to January 31, 1996

Retired

Erich Hoff
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Saburo Mizutani
Eleanor Morris
Walter Dooley
Vincent Mahon
Alvaro Garcia
Stephen Johnson
John Kazay
Billy Briscoe
James Sung
Lula Gray
George Belluomini
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Edgar Smith
Jane Troy
Leo Wong
Leendert Mulder
Jay Burns
Kenneth Jepson
Robert Brown Jr.
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Fred Kaneshige
Roy Maffei
Billy Lane
Raymond Keirle
Harold Skillman
Myron Fong
Degartria Jackson
Quong Fong
James Thomas
Robert Zickwolf

20 Years

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Maria Castillo
Arlene Dawkins
Josephine Parento
Leroy Pierce
James Wells
Mark Huddleston
Bertha Menyweather
Mario Contreras
Martin Gent
Emily Perez
David Zehnder
Oiroff Florio

15 Years

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Dianne Anderson
Michael Capizzi
Jose Garcia
William Hatteroth
Renay Madeiros
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William Person Jr
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Earl Jackson

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Teresita Henaghan
Matthew McDole
David Lehrer
Ronald Moland
Peter Tyndall
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Elly Divino Sr
Jose Ortega
Kenneth Bohanan
James Meadows

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Michael Pon
William Schultz
Michael Dunn
Christopher Shipley
Stephanie Cole
Maria Del Rosario
Catherine Ferguson
Deborah Fitzgerald
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Meg Shephard
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Roberta Collier
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